TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 10, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended May 5 totaled 347,890, virtually the same as the corresponding week of 1989, but 0.2 percent below the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 2.0 percent in the West but down 1.5 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, coal loadings were up 4,549 cars (3.6 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment decreased by 1,896 cars (8.8 percent) and metallic ores loadings were down 1,641 cars (7.8 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 18 weeks of 1990 totaled 6,095,833, up 0.3 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 119,315 trailers and/or containers for the week ended May 5, up 5.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 18 weeks of 1990 was 2,097,694 trailers and/or containers, 3.3 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended May 5 totaled 20.3 billion, up 2.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 18 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 354.4 billion ton-miles, up 1.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 5, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING MAY 5, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	27,271	26,384	3.4 %	26,196	4.1 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,132	1,520	-25.5	1,243	-8.9
Metallic Ores	19,428	21,069	-7.8	18,084	7.4
Coal	130,829	126,280	3.6	130,072	.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	16,850	16,764	.5	16,438	2.5
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,800	11,031	-2.1	10,045	7.5
Grain Mill Products	9,832	10,315	-4.7	10,055	-2.2
Food & Kindred Products	8,617	8,668	-.6	8,661	-.5
Primary Forest Products	9,401	10,161	-7.5	10,469	-10.2
Lumber & Wood Products	6,904	7,101	-2.8	7,337	-5.9
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,725	10,529	1.9	10,981	-2.3
Chemicals	28,993	28,791	.7	30,741	-5.7
Petroleum Products	5,072	5,022	1.0	5,121	-1.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,476	10,631	-1.4	10,266	2.1
Coke	5,807	5,438	6.8	5,984	-3.0
Metals & Products	10,489	10,127	3.6	10,250	2.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,572	21,468	-8.8	20,404	-4.1
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,787	9,030	-2.7	9,082	-3.2
All Other Carloads	6,903	7,406	-6.8	7,157	-3.5
Total	**347,890**	**347,735**	**.0 %**	**348,586**	**-.2 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING MAY 5, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 18 WEEKS ENDING MAY 5, 1990 1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**347,890**	**347,735**	**.0 %**	**6,095,833**	**6,080,610**	**.3 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	66,301	66,161	.2	1,190,215	1,185,815	.4
Containers	53,014	47,024	12.7	907,479	844,485	7.5
Total	**119,315**	**113,185**	**5.4**	**2,097,694**	**2,030,300**	**3.3**
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.3**	**19.9**	**2.0 %**	**354.4**	**349.9**	**1.3 %**

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